

REMARKS

We are in receipt of the Office Action dated January 7, 2005, and the above amendment and following remarks are made in light thereof.

Claims 24-53 are pending in the application. Pursuant to the Office Action, claims 26, 27, 31, 32, 36, 37, 41, 42, 46, 47, 51 and 52 are objected to for lacking an antecedent basis for the limitation “the second impurity regions.” Claims 24, 26, 27, 39, 41 and 42 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over U.S. Patent No. 6,686,623. Claims 24, 25, 29, 30, 34, 35, 39, 40, 44, 45, 49 and 50 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Liu et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,814,854. Claims 28, 33, 38, 43, 48 and 53 are rejected 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu et al. together with Yamazaki et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,127,702.

In response to the objection to the claims for lacking an antecedent basis, claims 26, 27, 31, 32, 36, 37, 42, 47 and 52 have been cancelled by the foregoing amendment. In addition, claims 24, 29, 34, 39, 44 and 49 have been amended to refer to “at least two second impurity regions.”

With respect to the rejections based upon the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting, a Terminal Disclaimer is enclosed.

With respect to the rejection for anticipation by Liu et al., the independent claims 24, 29 and 34 have been amended to include the limitations that “at least two second impurity regions formed in said semiconductor film between the pair of first impurity regions; at least one channel region between the two second impurity regions; boundaries between the channel region and the second impurity regions extend in a direction along a carrier flow direction of the channel region.” The newly added features are supported by the embodiment of at least Fig. 1A.

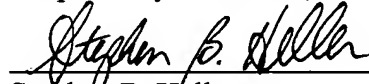
In addition, independent claims 39, 44 and 49 have been amended so as to include the limitations of “at least two second impurity regions formed in said semiconductor film between

the pair of first impurity regions; at least one channel region formed between the two second impurity regions; wherein said second impurity regions have a dot-like shape or an elliptical shape.”

Liu et al does not disclose the limitations added to claims 24, 29, 34, 39, 44 and 49. Accordingly, the rejection of these claims over Liu et al. is respectfully transversed. Each of the remaining claims, being dependent either directly or indirectly from one of these independent claims, is thus also allowable.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is now in condition for allowance, and an early Office Action in this regard is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Stephen B. Heller", is written over a horizontal line.

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